



# District 2 Update

Volume 2, Issue 2  
Mar./April 2002



## Be a Wetlands Avenger

Councilmember Byron Wear is asking all San Diegans to be "Wetland Avengers" to help save our wetland habitat. Set aside Saturday, May 4 for a fun and exciting community event providing hands-on education along with vital wetland restoration and clean-up. The event will be held from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the salt marsh area just east of Dog Beach in Ocean Beach.

Local biologists (the "Sergeants") will lead every "Avenger" on educational and interactive tours of this sensitive and threatened habitat. "Avengers" will then work with a "Squad Leader" to remove non-native invasive plants, trash and to smooth pathways.

Tee shirts, lunch, and beverages will be provided at no cost; games, raffles, and music will complete the fun. Join Councilmember Byron Wear as he unveils two new interpretive signs at the event.

Wetlands aid in "cleaning" our waterways by transforming pollutants into nutrients for plants. They absorb large quantities of water and protect surrounding areas from flooding and erosion. Non-native plants are a tremendous threat to this habitat. They out-compete native plants and the wetland is negatively impacted, resulting in habitat loss & an unhealthy ecosystem.

Participants must pre-register by 4/22/02 to attend. Please contact Melissa Studer, Project Pacific: 858 270-8851 or [studer@projectpacific.org](mailto:studer@projectpacific.org) or Shara Fisler, Aquatic Adventures:



Focus in May: Old Town

# On The Docket

*The City Council dockets are issued each Wednesday preceding the Monday and Tuesday meetings. Please call the City Clerk at 533-4000 for Docket information.*

**Item #111 on the April 15 docket will approve angled parking on Canon, Upshur, Talbot and Scott Streets to provide 18 new spaces. More than 75% of the property owners submitted petitions to initiate the action.**

**Item #331 will be a revised section of the Ethics Commission ordinance to clarify some sections of the ordinance.**

**Item #332 will be a public hearing for those non-profit groups requesting CDBG funding.**

## District 2 Update

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## Wear, Atkins and Frye Support Ballot Initiative to Save Mission Bay



Mission Bay Park is one of San Diego's jewels and one of San Diego's principal tourism and leisure destinations, attracting millions of visitors from across the nation and abroad. On a peak summer day well over 100,000 people, locals and visitors alike, will use the Park, engaging in a diverse range of activities from group picnicking, sailing, and visiting Sea World, to swimming, fishing, jogging, and bicycling.

But, Mission Bay Park is short \$200 million in needed public improvements called for in the approved, citizen-drafted 1994 Mission Bay Master Plan.

Frustrated with funding shortfalls, Councilmember Wear brought together citizens and organizations with diverse interests to address the critical funding issue. Joining Councilmember Wear in a petition drive and ballot initiative for November, 2002 are Councilmembers Toni Atkins and Donna Frye along with Carolyn Chase, Chair of Mayor Murphy's Environmental Advisory Committee, environmentalists and Mission Bay Park lessees. The City currently receives more than \$18 million in lease revenue. This initiative would cap that amount for the General Fund and allocate any increase to be used specifically for improvements — 2/3 to Mission Bay and 1/3 to other regional parks.

Funding at Mission Bay Park would be utilized to:

- Improve Water Quality
- Expand Wetlands and Habitat Restoration
- Dredge to Restore Circulation in Areas Subject to Siltation



## Family Justice Center To Open Downtown

In a joint effort that crosses government and agency lines, City Attorney Casey Gwinn and Assistant Police Chief Rulette Armstead (right) briefed Council staff and celebrated signing a lease at 707 Broadway to establish a “one-stop shop” for victims of domestic violence. These lines are often barriers that prevent victims and their families from getting comprehensive medical, social and legal assistance. The Family Justice Center will house the City Attorney’s and the SDPD’s domestic violence specialists, and will include innovations such as forensic examinations, a computer case tracking program and room for service agencies to have a presence. For information on how you can help the Family Justice Center, contact Assistance City Attorney Gael Strack at 619/533-5515 or



## Save Mission Bay Initiative, continued

- Create Additional Public Parkland and Enhanced Landscaping
- Construct an Interpretive Nature Center
- Expand Athletic Fields
- Develop Additional Pedestrian and Bicycle Paths

For facts and figures regarding the Mission Bay Master Plan, a full reading of the initiative, plus information on how to sign the petition at [www.savemissionbay.org/](http://www.savemissionbay.org/)



**For details, visit [www.savemissionbay.org](http://www.savemissionbay.org)**

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Byron Wear speaking at the Pacific Beach Station 21 tribute breakfast for the FDNY Football Team, The Bravest, and presenting former head coach Pudgie Walsh with a resolution.



***Councilmember Wear presented a resolution to the FDNY firefighters who were hosted at Pacific Beach Fire Station 21 Firefighters Breakfast on April 5. His remarks at the presentation follow:***

Thank you, first of all, Captain Kevin McWalters, and our San Diego Firefighters who have put this breakfast together to show our unity as public servants from coast to coast.

The image and recognition of the FDNY was forever changed as the 911 tragedy exploded into the American hearts and minds last fall. Especially here in California, as we watched with amazement at the bravery and unselfish dedication of those risking their lives to save the lives of others. It was difficult to believe that what we were seeing was real.

You, however, inhaled the soot, burned with the heat, and suffered the pain of loved ones lost. Honor has never been so clearly demonstrated on American soil.

You have raised the bar for all of us who serve.

And now we are here to celebrate 30 years of outstanding loyalty and dedication as a football club and to honor Pudgie Walsh, who has inspired fire fighters in their work and in their play.

The Bible says, "To every thing there is a turn." Today our mourning is set aside and it is time to play, to enjoy and to be proud of our service to our fellow man. Thank you for being here. We salute you.

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